

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application. This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed April 13, 2009. In this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 21, 23, 27-29, 31-33, 35-41, 46-47, 54-70, 80-89, 95-96 and 99-120 have been cancelled. Claims 121-131 are new. No new matter has been added.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has required that Applicant restrict to one of the eight identified inventions set forth in the Office Action dated April 13, 2009, and then elect to prosecute one of the those eight inventions.

Breakdown of Claims

As Applicant understands the requirement of the Office Action, the eight available inventions are:

- I. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4-5, 9, 10, 11-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23, 27, 28 and 29 drawn to a social system having a host computer, a database and a plurality of input devices all connected to a data network, for providing context information, classified in class 709, subclass 219.
- II. Claims 31-32, 54, 55, 57, 69, 63, 56, 58, 59, 60, 62, 64-68, 33, 41, 35, 36-37, 40, 38, 39, 46-47 and 89, drawn to social network configured to allow a user to control the value of Nth degree of connections separating the user from a contact to be included, classified in class 709, subclass 220.

- III. Claims 97, 30, 34, 43, 45, 48-50, 91-93 and 98, drawn to a system for allowing a user to define his degree of participation or role in an application, classified in class 709, subclass 223.
- IV. Claims 99, 70, 100-103, 105, 80-88 and 104, drawn to social network configured to allow user to perform roles, classified in class 709, subclass 220.
- V. Claims 106, 107, 111-112, 108-110 and 113, drawn to method of creating a private personal social network, classified in class 709, subclass 217.
- VI. Claims 114-116 and 120 drawn to configuring of social network software application, classified in class 709, subclass 220.
- VII. Claims 117-118, drawn to a method of operating a social network system, classified in class 709, subclass 220.
- VIII. Claim 119, drawn to a method of operating a social network system by configuring an application so as to allow a user to be either a provider or a participant, classified in class 709, subclass 220.

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action dated April 13, 2009, Applicant elects to prosecute Group III, claims 97, 30, 34, 43, 45, 48-50, 91-93 and 98, as set forth above.

Abstract

Examiner objected to the Abstract as being unclear. Applicant has submitted a replacement paragraph. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements, and as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kay et al., (U.S Patent No.: 6,430,602) in view of Bastian et al. (U.S Patent No.: 6,757,712).

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5, 9-13, 7, 15, 95-96, 21, 23 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kay in view of Bastian.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (650) 798-0300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 19-3140. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: October 13, 2009

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